

# Carole Johnson

Candidate for VFWA Department of Florida Guard 2026-2027



Attention Members of the VFW Auxiliary,

I am honored to formally declare my candidacy for the position of Department Guard for the 2026–2027 term. My steadfast dedication to our organization, its core values, and our collective mission to serve veterans and their families motivates my pursuit of this role.

Throughout my time, it has been a privilege to collaborate with many of you in advancing our programs and taking part in initiatives that strengthen our community and promote patriotism. These experiences have reinforced my understanding of the dedication, collaboration, and teamwork that underpin the success and influence of our auxiliaries.

My connection to the organization began with my father, Byron James Johnson, a US Army veteran affected by Agent Orange who took part in experimental treatments and was dedicated to supporting fellow veterans. I am proud of my family's VFW legacy: my grandfather, Adrian Johnson, founded Post 2916 in Brooklyn Park, Maryland, and both he and my father served as commanders for over twenty years. Growing up in the VFW community has shaped my ongoing commitment to service and veterans.

This year marks my 27th as a lifetime member, reflecting many years of dedicated service. I currently serve as Senior Vice at POST 8108 in Riverview and chair several initiatives, including one that earned a first-place award in Buddy Poppy display Category 1. Within District 12, I act as conductress, third-year trustee, and oversee responsibilities such as

historian/media relations, patriotic instruction, and Americanism chair. Additionally, it was an honor to help found Cooties Pup Tent #29 in Springhill this year.

My approach centers on aligning people with roles that best suit their strengths, rather than focusing on titles. With hands-on experience in multiple officer positions and district initiatives, I am committed to helping every team member reach shared goals.

I prioritize fostering relationships among different posts, districts, and states to drive growth and improve our organization's efficiency. The VFW Auxiliary truly feels like a family—diverse yet united in our mission. My ongoing dedication includes supporting veterans, continuously learning about both officer and appointed positions, and embracing new challenges. For me, success is measured by the quality of our relationships, effective teamwork, and the lasting positive difference we create together.

If granted the opportunity to serve as Department Guard, I will uphold core values—Loyalty, Duty, Respect, Selfless Service, Honor, Integrity, and Personal Courage—and work collaboratively to advance the interests of those we serve.

If you have questions or need more information, please contact me at the listed email. I look forward to hearing from you.

Thank you for your steadfast commitment to the VFW Auxiliary and to veterans. I am grateful for your support and look forward to the possibility of serving as your Department of Florida Auxiliary Guard.

Cordially,

Carole Johnson

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